Fine Arts program focuses on classes, art experiences

By Gene Tracey

From its beginnings in 1967, the goals of the Department of Fine Arts have been to give the undergraduate student an experience in the arts and to provide good classes and an experience of great artists, according to Rev. Don Doll, S.J., assistant professor of Fine Arts.

In the fall of 1967, the Department of Fine Arts began with Rev. Leland Lubbers, S.J. as the department chairman. Photography, pottery, sculpture and welding were the main courses offered at that time. Since then, art history, dance and theater have been added. Two new degrees were also offered to students then: Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Aids.

At first, the new Fine Arts building was shared with the law students until they had their own facilities. In January of 1975, the Departments of Drama and Fine Arts were united into the Departments of Fine and Performing Arts.

In 1973, the Department of Fine Arts moved on campus. Prior to this time the department had been located in the old Medical School at 14th and Davenport. A single room in the old Medical School had housed all of the courses including painting, photography, drawing, printing, ceramics and sculpture.

Father Doll said that the main goal for the future in the Fine Arts is, “the expansion of the theater program, to help the undergraduates experience the arts, to have a good program and to provide everything for the students we can.”